

I am going  
at your  
convenience  
in a day or  
two. Suppose  
there is no  
great hurry.  
Mr. Burk  
goes to  
Santa Cruz  
to a sort of  
Liberal society  
there. Mrs. D.  
says he preached  
there two weeks  
ago and they  
say he scared  
the town, he  
must be smart.

Wm. B.  
Maurice

1875

Niles Oct. 11.

Dear Abbie, Your letter giving the finale of the Red Bluff matter came last night. I regret exceedingly that you should have had to pass through with it all, but feel gratified that you have shown so much fortitude and discretion as I think you have. Life will now subside (I suppose) into the dull routine of a country school and you will have a chance to share whether the thought of duty for duty's sake will be enough to keep you up to the highest mark of what you are capable of. The distance between you and the keepers of that Irish pig pen is less than that between Christ and human beings infinitely less, Can you shun his Spirit towards them? It seems very evident that Providence sent you there, whether for some wise purpose of training for you, or that you might exert some refining and elevating influence upon them I do not know probably both. You will no doubt find some bright children, and perhaps you may start them on an upward course. After all there are not many who can do great things so we will take care to do the little.

Papa and I have been to the City this week. Went down Wednesday, on the boat met Aunt Fannie going to Ladies Miss. meeting at Taylor St. Chh. Left Papa to go to Grange and went with her. Met Aunt Fannie there. Mrs. Bluelee read report. Mrs. Brewer Leonard etc there. After few minutes adjourned to go up stairs to hear reports from Chh. meeting over. Obedience ladies uncertain what to do. Last year at O. they prepared lunch for City ladies none prepared, meeting again in afternoon. Aunt Fannie not able to go up the hill. Staid without lunch. O. ladies slightly disgusted. After noon went with Papa to Grange. After meeting, Lundy came mounted



to see Papa. Thought same relation,  
Hushurnd's mother a Shirra. Name -  
Ivan, lives in San L. O. County. Seem  
quite well off, appear very well. Papa  
talked with Mrs. Ivan, could not  
make out much but concluded  
they were same relation. Walked up  
the hill to Dr's. Not a good time  
for doing it, result, went nowhere  
next day but down to Lou's found  
her in bed with headache. Lay  
down on bed with her and stayed  
there till lunch time. Had a good  
cozy chat. She expressed a great  
deal of sympathy for you. Met  
there a second cousin of Aunt Jane  
Mrs. Tiffany daughter of Judge Allen  
(who has been at the Islands) and  
that cousin of Aunt Jane's who was  
insane. She is a very pleasant, interesting  
lady, used to wealth, had spent years  
in Europe, has just Aunt Jane's  
free and cordial way, is a great  
talker and becomes enthusiastic  
in a moment over what interests  
her, and is interested in everything,  
is ladylike and intelligent. Younger  
than Aunt Jane considerable.  
After noon went ~~back~~ to Aunt Jane's  
and spent the rest of the day. Mrs. Perkins  
was there. Mrs. P. lives in Santa Cruz  
knows Mrs. Mc. Carr (Pearl's mother)  
well. I have discovered that Mrs. Mc. C.  
is the Mary Chantain of the Boreal Press.  
Her Hushurnd is a lawyer and he likes  
liquor too well for his own good. She  
(Mrs. P. says) is a good Christian woman  
and smart. Friday morning Mrs. P. and  
I went out shopping together. Took  
our time, traveled round etc. She  
I think quite enjoyed having me  
with her as she had no need to mind  
the economies in my presence. She  
told her husband she was so glad



she had met and became acquainted  
with me. She is intelligent (M<sup>rs</sup>. Holyoke)  
decided, a little peculiar, of strange  
likes and dislikes, loves an Dickens  
and Will Carleton's ballads, dislikes  
Scott, likes flowers and country life  
lives in a poor little house, which ~~you~~  
~~is~~ she is trying to cover up with vines  
is poor etc. So you see there are things  
enough in common, with differences  
enough for spice. Asked me to come  
and see her, told her we would  
bring a tent and pitch beside  
her (she lives on the sea shore). Shall  
we in your vacation next summer?  
Friday afternoon Aunt Jane, Mrs. Tibbings  
Cousin Loue, and myself went out to  
Wundmarch. Saw the seals fed. Was very  
funny. Big old fellow throw himself  
up on the rocks for a piece of beef  
in the most awkwardly agile manner  
possible to conceive. Went into the  
aquarium, where a young chap  
volunteered his explanations much  
to our delight till we discovered  
some of his information was incorrect.  
Found he meant to attach himself to  
our party probably thinking as Cousin  
Loue said that it was a pretty genteel  
looking one. We cut him however,  
Saw the plants and ferns and went  
home. Evening, grand feast.  
Aunt Jane and Uncle went with us  
Hall full of people, magnificent spread  
of grapes, good show of apples some  
pears. As it was the Feast of Pomona  
nothing else was offered. Great crowd  
of people. Hardly any one I knew.  
Saturday morning, went over to  
Cableland, spent the day with Auntie.  
Auntie in one of her low moods  
partly Eddie, partly so much company  
partly poor health. Mattie Noble, her  
husband and kids still there, Lewis & Mary



has been sick, not very however. Mattie's horse fell down with her. She escaped with a skinned knee. Uncle had been up to Buck's Ranch to see Eddie. He thought he was doing all right but I thought from what he told about the way he spent his time that he acted very much as he did here. I do feel so sorry about Eddie I fear his life will be ruined. They talk of letting go down to San Diego to spend the winter with Ball, and I do not believe they will be willing he should ever study any more.

Uncle Sanford went to Uncle Doctor and asked him if he would not find a place for Eddie in a machine shop. Uncle told him Eddie was utterly unfit for such a place, that the work was extremely hard, and I guess they have given it up.

I saw Prof. Hellog a moment, he asked after you in an interested way, but as there was no chance to explain I simply said you were at Red Bluff. He said that used to be a nice little town when he lived it. There I have told you a long string and I don't know as you will care anything about it. Papa was greatly interested in your interview. He will write to you when he returns but he started to day for a trip up in Napu and Samoa Counties in the interest of the Burdery. He gets that much good out of it at any rate, for he likes to travel and see the country. Charlie is pining for a chance to pumnel Turke, and is generally in a state of indignation over your wrongs. I shall send thro. C. some plants when the right time comes. Let us know all about how you are situated in your school and boarding place. How long will you have to stay at the Irish place; how far is your boarding place from the school house? How far is your school from Cottonwood?